



## DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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980 NINTH STREET, SUITE 1500  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814  
WWW.DELTACOUNCIL.CA.GOV  
(916) 445-5511

October 20, 2017

Mr. David Mooney  
Bureau of Reclamation - Mid-Pacific Region  
Bay-Delta Office  
801 I Street, Suite 140  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Mooney:

### **Re: Yolo Bypass Analytical Tool Independent Review**

The Delta Science Program is pleased to present the enclosed review report entitled, "Yolo Bypass Salmon Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Analytical Tool Review." The transmittal of this report fulfills a request from the United States Bureau of Reclamation to facilitate a peer review of the models used in evaluating the design alternatives for the Yolo Bypass Salmon Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Project, as required by the Biological Opinion for Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. The goal of the review was to evaluate the ability of the models to collectively evaluate the design alternatives proposed in the Draft Yolo Bypass Fish Passage and Habitat Restoration Program EIR/EIS.

The review panel has recognized that these tools represents a remarkably comprehensive assessment of options for Yolo Bypass inundation. Challenges remain regarding assumptions and model integration, though the panel concludes that the tools provide a reasonable foundation to support EIR/EIS decisions.

The independent review panel consisted of Dr. Jim Anderson (Chair), Dr. Mark Tompkins (Lead Author), Dr. Joshua Viers, Dr. Cameron Speir, Dr. Greg Ruggerone and Dr. Peter Goodwin. These panel members were selected for their expertise in ecological and integrated models, ecohydraulics, fish behavior, the Sacramento-Sa Joaquin Delta and agricultural economics.

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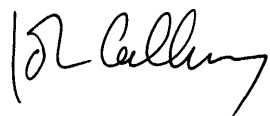
*"Coequal goals" means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place."*

*– State Water Code §85054*

The panel participated in a public meeting on September 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017. More information about the review is posted on the Delta Science Program web page:  
<http://www.deltacouncil.ca.gov/event-detail/14848>.

If there are questions about the independent review panel's report or the review process, please contact Scott Brandl, Delta Science Program, at (916) 445-0513.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Callaway". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Callaway, Ph.D.  
Lead Scientist, Delta Science Program  
Delta Stewardship Council

Enclosure